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Washington State
Employment Security Department
John Spellman, Governor
Norward Brooks, Commissioner

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in cooperation with the
Bureau of Labor Statistics
and the Employment and
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U.S. Department of Labor

Washington Labor Market

Volume 8, Number 6 June 1984

HIGHLIGHTS

The employment picture in Washington State was generally brighter in May, despite sluggish conditions in housing related industries and a sharp cutback in primary metals production. The latter is due to a world-wide oversupply of aluminum and copper, accompanied by rapidly falling prices. Another hike in the prime lending rate, from 12.5 to 13.0 percent, will prevent an immediate rebound in construction and lumber and wood products. Amidst these conditions, the state's unemployment rate still fell 0.5 of a percentage point from a revised 10.0 percent in April to 9.5 percent in May. Expansion of the Puget Sound economy, led by growth and optimism in aerospace, is balancing weaker recovery elsewhere in the state. Total employment in the state rose by nearly 33,000 in May, while the number of persons classified as unemployed fell by 7,700. A major part of the May boost in payrolls was due to the asparagus harvest which provided thousands of temporary jobs in eastern Washington. These changes are normal for a non-recession year; and surpass recession-year norms by a wide margin. During the 1980-82 recession, the state's May jobless rate fell by an average of only 0.2 of a percentage point. The May drop in unemployment during this period averaged just 1,300. Continuing strength in business investments has stablized employment in the state's (non-housing related) durable goods sector. Consumer spending, still vigorous after eighteen months of economic recovery, is fueling job growth in retail trades and services.

	May 1984*	April 1984*	May 1983
Civilian Labor Force	2,095,900	2,070,700	2,056,500
Total State Employment	1,896,200	1,863,300	1,814,700
Total Unemployment	199,700	207,400	241,800
State Unemployment Rate	9.5	10.0	11.8
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	7.2	7.6	9.8

*These data are alternative estimates which are more nearly comparable with data released in previous years than the official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates developed for Federal program purposes.

The state unemployment rate normally reaches its low point of the year in May. Weather conditions have improved enough to allow rehiring of agricultural and contruction workers; and the employment surge in tourism and travel related industries is well underway. At the same time, the labor supply holds steady in May, as young people continue attending classes. The unemployment rate in the summer usually rises as thousands of students seek summer employment.

On the national level, another increase in the prime lending rate and larger than expected growth in Gross National Product (GNP), were the major events of the past month. The rise in the prime rate was the fourth since mid-March. The current level--of 13.0 percent--is the highest since October, 1982. Although the housing market has already suffered, consumer demand for most "big ticket" durables including automobiles, remains strong. Business investments are also forging ahead in the face of higher interest rates. With plant capacity utilization at 82 percent, business again raised its capital spending plans for 1984. If companies adhere to expansion plans, business will spend 14.8 percent more in 1984 than in 1983. The broadest measure of aggregate national economic activity, GNP, increased an estimated 5.7 percent during the second quarter, about two percentage points higher than the consensus forecast. First quarter GNP, initially estimated at 8.8 percent, was revised upward to 9.7 percent. GNP has grown at a faster pace over the past eighteen months than in any comparable post recession period since the end of the Korean War (1954-55). Despite the rapid pace of economic growth, inflation is low, with the May Consumer Price Index increasing by only 0.2 percent over the previous month.

Nationally, the non-adjusted jobless rate fell 0.4 of a percentage point in May to 7.6 percent. The seasonally adjusted rate dropped for the first time since February, from 7.8 percent in the previous three months to 7.5 percent in May. The adjusted jobless rate filters transient seasonal changes in employment to reveal longer-term underlying trends. The healthy May decline in this measure of national labor market conditions, suggests there is still extraordinary vigor in the economy. The Commerce Department Index of Leading Economic Indicators, which is designed to predict economic turning points, suggests a flattening in growth by about the middle of next year. The Index dropped slightly in May, following small gains during March and April.

CHART 1

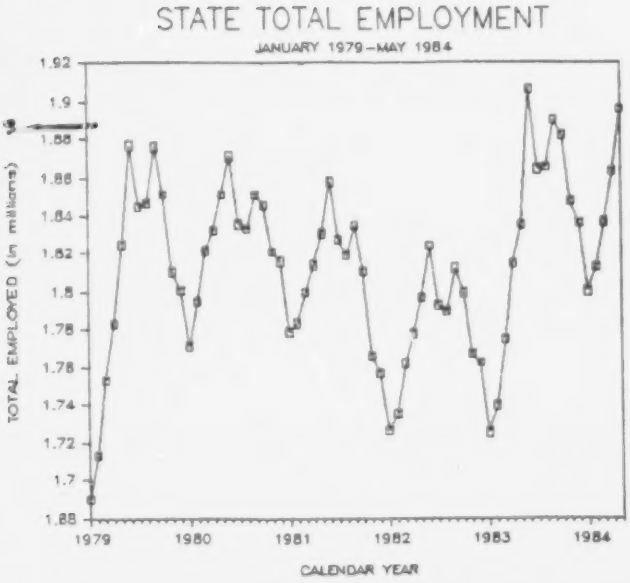
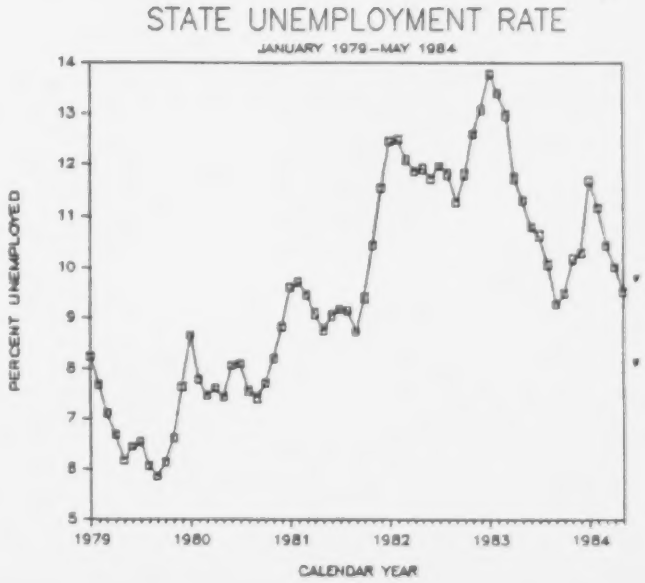


CHART 2



MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT

Renewed strength in business spending on capital goods is helping the state consolidate modest, but steady, progress in manufacturing employment over the past year. Overall, payrolls in this sector were up by 2,700 in May despite a recession in lumber and wood products. The latter has been caused by high mortgage rates and low timber prices. Gradual expansion in aerospace, a slight upturn in ship-building, and seasonal gains in food processing helped maintain an upward trend in manufacturing jobs (see table on page 9). The May increase in lumber and wood products employment was well below seasonal norms. Primary metals employment, which normally grows in May, held steady reflecting a cutback in aluminum production due to a world wide oversupply.

Durable Goods Industries

For the second straight month, the payroll gain in lumber and wood products of about 300, was well below the usual May increase. Normally, this industry adds 1000-3000 jobs at this time of year. Low prices for lumber and plywood resulting from an over-supply and a sluggish housing market are still the culprits.

Pick-up in Lumber Production

In the Washington and Oregon coastal region, lumber production fell during May to thirty percent below normal. Preliminary June figures, however, paint a brighter picture with production in the region bouncing back to five percent below normal during the first week of June.

Although shrinking inventories will bring summer payrolls in lumber closer to the seasonal norm, the industry's long-term outlook is not considered bright. Mid-western and southern producers are capturing larger shares of the market with cheaper plywood substitutes and lower transportation costs to customers in most regions of the country. Random Lengths, a wood products newsletter, estimates that production of substitutes could soar from 1.2 billion square feet last year to 5 billion by 1985. This would represent one-quarter of the national plywood market. The automated plants needed to produce the substitutes, however, are costly to establish. Managment must be prepared to sustain heavy losses in the initial period of operation.

Layoff at Simpson Timber

Among the publicly reported layoffs, the most far-reaching was at Simpson Timber Company where nearly one-thousand employees were due to be furloughed at the end of May. The affected plants were at Shelton, McCleary and Albany, Oregon. On the brighter side, a mill in Clark County that closed five years ago, is starting up again. Although the workforce will initially be small--with ten workers employed in log storage and chipping--the company hopes to start a veneer plant and a small sawmill next year. The development

has been a psychological boost to the northern Clark County community whose economy was devastated in 1979 when the plant closed, laying off 350 workers.

Employment in primary metals production was unchanged in May. In past years, this industry has added about 200-300 workers at this time of year. The current shortfall signifies a slowdown in aluminum production precipitated by a world wide oversupply and rapidly falling prices.

Two of five Aluminum Company of America (ALOCA) potlines in Vancouver, Washington are scheduled to be shut down July 1, sending 140 workers to the unemployment lines. In April of 1983, the Bonneville Power Authority offered temporary reduced electricity rates. ALCOA responded by adding a potline. The reduced rates, however, expired last November. Northwest aluminum industry officials attribute the shutdowns to higher BPA rates. Power costs dictate which plants will be shut down first when the aluminum market is in recession. Six aluminum companies in the region purchase electricity directly from the BPA to fuel ten smelters. Over the past five years, their power rates have risen to 2.68 cents per kilowatt-hour (kwh), from less than one-half cent in 1979. The world-wide average is estimated at two cents per kwh. When the aluminum market is saturated, northwest plants are now among the first considered for closure, say regional aluminum industry officials.

Slowdowns in Aluminum and Copper

In a related development, the United States Supreme Court gave the BPA broad discretion to allocate hydroelectric power in the Pacific Northwest. The decision is considered a victory for the aluminum industry and BPA. In times of scarce energy, BPA will now be able to continue supplying service to aluminum-companies. Under previous contracts, their service may have been interrupted so that BPA could supply public utility districts (which, in turn, serve homes and small businesses). In general, power rate and usage controversies in the northwest have pitted large industrial users against residential customers.

In another development involving the primary metals industry, Asarco in Tacoma announced that its smelting operations will shut down in June of 1985. The closure will mean a loss of 500 of the plant's 550 jobs. Low copper prices, attributed to persistent overproduction by nationalized companies in developing countries, was cited as a prime cause. The high cost of compliance with Federal Environmental Protection Agency regulations was also mentioned by company officials as a reason for the shutdown. A small part of the Asarco workforce will be retained to assist in the production and storage of arsenic.

Hiring Continues in Aerospace

On the brighter side, employment in transportation equipment jumped by 600 during May, with aerospace accounting for 400 jobs. This is consistent with an April announcement by The Boeing Company, boosting its projected hiring for 1984 by 2,300 jobs. The revision was prompted by an improved outlook for military and commercial airline sales, with the Boeing 737 mid-sized jetliner leading the way.

May 1984 employment in aerospace is ten percent below the pre-recession level of May, 1979. Payroll increases, on the order 300-400 per month, are expected to continue in the industry through the remainder of 1984.

Recent news reports indicate that the governments of Britain, France, and Germany are exploring methods to provide direct loans or loan guarantees at low rates to United States airline companies as an inducement to purchase European jetliners. If Airbus Industries, Boeing's leading international competitor in the commerical airline market, proceeds with the financing plan, domestic airline producers are expected to advocate countermeasures. Possible proposals include Federal financing of jetliner sales to U.S. companies and restrictions on foreign financing of U.S. airline purchases.

Modest Comeback in Shipbuilding

Employment in transportation equipment manufacturing other than aerospace, jumped by a healthy 200 during May, with shipbuilding adding most of the jobs. One large firm hired 90 workers to prepare for a major ship-launching. The May upturn in shipbuilding follows reports last month that Tacoma Boat Building Company and Marine Power and Equipment Corporation had each negotiated major contracts in the $70 to $100 million range, promising hundreds of new manufacturing jobs. These acquisitions, along with the May upturn in employment, may signal a halt to the recession in northwest shipbuilding. This industry has lagged the general employment recovery in Washington State.

Nondurable Goods Employment

The largest May gain in manufacturing employment was recorded in food and kindred products. Overall, payrolls in this industry jumped by 1,200 during May. This is a healthy increase, but 500-1000 below the seasonal norm for a non-recession year. Four large companies, each hiring 200-300 workers to process the asparagus crop, accounted for the bulk of the May pick-up. This was partially offset by a loss of over 100 jobs in a large potato processing firm, a normal occurence for the season. Among nondurables, the paper and allied products industry continues its strong recovery. After adding 200 to its payrolls in May, this industry's employment is only 6.4 percent below the pre-recession, May 1979 level. The demand for cartons and

other packaging materials in response to heightened consumer spending has helped revive the paper and allied products sector. The boom in small computer sales has also created higher demand for computer printing paper.

NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT

Nonmanufacturing industries in Washington are contributing most of the new jobs in this post-recession period. Seasonal factors were the primary reason for May employment gains in contract construction (up 2,400), wholesale and retail trade (up 4,200), and services employment (up 2,200). A sharp deceleration in new housing starts, due to higher mortgage rates, kept a lid on the May increase in construction employment. Other May gains, however, were within seasonal norms, indicating a generally hearty nonmanufacturing sector.

Steady growth in nonmanufacturing, particularly in the trade and services industries, is a result of the general employment recovery and healthy gains in real personal income. The State Office of Financial Management reports that real personal income grew in the fourth quarter of 1983 at a strong annual rate of 5.4 percent. A rise of two to three percent is normal. Disposable income, the portion of personal income readily available for spending, also advanced briskly in the fourth quarter, at an annual rate of 8.0 percent. (This percentage increase is computed for current rather than inflation adjusted dollars). Combined with a vital tourist industry, the growth in personal income has sparked the rebound in trade and services employment. During May, this was reflected in the payrolls of restaurants (+2,500), service stations (+400), and hotels (+500). Only personal services, which includes individual income tax preparation, showed a significant drop in employment as the tax return deadline passed.

Consumer Spending
Fuels
Trade and Services Employment

In the transportation, communication and public utilities sector, Pacific Northwest Bell announced plans to eliminate 550 jobs by the end of July. Installers and repairmen are the most affected occupation. The reduction-in-force, however, is expected to be accomplished through departure incentives and attrition, rather than by forced termination. Last year PNB completed a 15 percent reduction in its workforce. The Company's workload continues to decline as new entrants in the communications field attract business that once belonged exclusively to the Bell system. A stagnant housing market has also contributed to slackening demand for telephone service. Overall, however, employment in the transportation, communication and utilities group is rebounding nicely from its recession low-point in early 1983. Payrolls in May 1984 reached 91,000, close to the industry's peak-year annual average of 91,400, in 1980. Employment levels in this industry parallel movements in population, new business incorporations, and housing

starts. Relative stability in total population, however, insulates this industry from the severest effects of recession. At its lowpoint, in January 1983, employment levels were still within five percent of the peak year average.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK: THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

Survey data and other key indicators of business activity, point to continued strength in capital spending for the remainder of 1984, and well into 1985. As plant capacity is pushed to the limits, business has raised its spending plans. Higher interest rates have not dampened corporate enthusiasm. Authorizations to spend for new plant and equipment by the nation's 1000 largest manufacturers jumped eleven percent in the first quarter. The effects will be felt in the second half of 1984. This is good news for Washington State's large capital goods industrial sector. Combined with solid, sustainable growth in Boeing payrolls, hardgoods manufacturing in the state should hold steady or grow modestly through the end of the year.

Capital Spending Looks Strong

Despite the protracted slump in lumber and wood products, a beginning slack in primary metals, and a permanent loss of thousands of traditional, heavy industry jobs, total employment in manufacturing is already ninety-two percent of its pre-recession level. (The comparable national figure is ninety-three percent.)

Higher Interest Rates Dampen Housing Market

A pick-up in lumber and wood products would remove the major blemish on the state's manufacturing recovery. Immediate revival, however, is not likely, as the national housing picture is clouded by higher interest rates. Nationally, housing starts fell 10.5 percent in May. In the previous month, new home sales dipped 4.9 percent. Low inflation is the one bright indicator in the housing outlook. If prices rise slowly, as in the first half of 1984, pressure to hike interest rates will subside. (Latest Consumer Price Index data is provided in the table on page eight.) Moderation in wage increases and solid productivity gains are positive signs in the fight to hold inflation down. A slowing of GNP growth would also ease pressure on interest rates and help put the housing recovery back on track. Most forecasters see GNP growing in the two to three percent range for the third quarter, following the blistering pace of expansion in the previous two quarters.

Low Inflation Helps Ease Pressure on Interest Rates

In the non-manufacturing sector, trade and service employment has risen steeply and steadily since the onset of recovery. In the state, a turnaround in aerospace and stability in other manufacturing industries, is helping spark consumer activity, which drives employment in trades and services. The Puget Sound economy has been the main beneficiary, with added impetus provided by tourism and travel.

Nationally, the University of Michigan Index of Consumer Sentiment registered another rise last month. Highlighting the survey were extremely positive attitudes toward the purchase of large consumer durables.

If the present expansion follows post World War II patterns, it will continue thorugh the latter half of 1986. Over the past forty years, the shortest post-recession upturn was twelve months, and the longest, 106 months. The current expansion has been underway for about eighteen months.

READER REQUEST FOR CONUMER PRICE INDEX

Due to numerous inquiries regarding the local and national Consumer Price Index (CPI), the Washington Labor Market Report will publish CPI data on a bimonthly basis as part of the "National Context" section. The CPI for the Seattle-Everett area is presently computed bimonthly; however, starting in 1987, the Seattle-Everett CPI will be computed semi-annually.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1967=100)

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE				
				Year Ending		2 Months Ending		1 Month Ending
	May 1983	Apr. 1984	May 1984	Apr. 1984	May 1984	Apr. 1984	May 1984	May 1984
U.S. City Average	297.1	308.8	309.7	4.5	4.2	0.7	0.8	0.3
Seattle-Everett	300.9	-	313.0	-	4.0	-	0.9	-

RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE 1/

(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	May. 1984 (Prel.)	Apr. 1984 (Rev.)	May. 1983	Apr. 1983	Change Apr. 84 to May. 84	Change May. 83 to May. 84
RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE.....	2,095.9	2,070.7	2,069.5	2,056.5	+25.2	+26.4
EMPLOYMENT.....	1,896.2	1,863.3	1,835.4	1,814.7	+32.9	+60.8
UNEMPLOYMENT.....	199.7	207.4	234.1	241.8	-7.7	-34.4
Percent of Labor Force.....	9.5	10.0	11.3	11.8	xxx	xxx

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 2/

(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	May. 1984 (Prel.)	Apr. 1984 (Rev.)	May. 1983	Apr. 1983	Change Apr. 84 to May. 84	Change May. 83 to May. 84
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY.....	1,632.8	1,619.7	1,581.9	1,566.8	+13.1	+50.9
TOTAL MANUFACTURING.....	285.2	282.5	277.1	275.7	+2.7	+8.1
Durable Goods.....	196.7	195.5	192.4	192.3	+1.2	+4.3
Lumber & Wood Products.....	4/42.4	42.1	42.2	40.5	+0.3	+0.2
Furniture & Fixtures.....	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.1	0.0	+0.2
Stone, Clay, & Glass Prod.....	6.3	6.2	6.1	5.8	+0.1	+0.3
Primary Metal Industries.....	13.5	13.5	12.5	12.2	0.0	+1.0
Aluminum Prod. & Processing...	8.9	8.9	8.2	7.8	0.0	+0.7
Fabricated Metal Products.....	9.8	9.7	4/8.9	4/8.9	+0.1	+0.9
Machinery.....	27.4	27.3	25.6	25.9	+0.1	+1.8
Machinery exc. Electrical.....	16.1	16.0	4/14.7	4/15.2	+0.1	+1.4
Electrical & Electronic Equip.	11.3	11.3	10.9	10.7	0.0	+0.4
Transportation Equipment.....	79.7	79.1	80.8	82.7	+0.6	-1.1
Aerospace.....	63.6	63.2	65.0	66.2	+0.4	-1.4
Other Transp. Equipment.....	16.1	15.9	4/15.8	16.5	+0.2	+0.3
Instruments & Related Prod.....	9.7	9.7	9.1	9.2	0.0	+0.6
Misc. Manufacturing Ind.....	4.5	4.5	4.1	4.0	0.0	+0.4
Nondurable Goods.....	88.5	87.0	84.7	83.4	+1.5	+3.8
Food & Kindred Products.....	31.5	30.3	30.5	30.0	+1.2	+1.0
Canned & Preserved Foods.....	11.2	10.2	10.4	9.9	+1.0	+0.8
Apparel & Other Text. Prod.....	6.2	6.2	5.6	5.6	0.0	+0.6
Paper & Allied Products.....	16.2	16.0	15.4	15.4	+0.2	+0.8
Printing & Publishing.....	16.4	16.5	16.1	16.0	-0.1	+0.3
Chemicals & Allied Products....	10.9	10.8	10.1	9.9	+0.1	+0.8
Other Nondurable Goods 3/.....	4/7.3	4/7.2	6.6	6.5	+0.1	+0.7
MINING & QUARRYING.....	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	0.0	+0.1
CONSTRUCTION.....	71.9	69.5	72.5	69.6	+2.4	-0.6
TRANS. & PUBLIC UTILITIES.....	91.0	90.6	87.7	87.1	+0.4	+3.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE.....	408.0	403.8	390.3	385.0	+4.2	+17.7
Wholesale Trade.....	103.1	102.6	98.8	98.4	+0.5	+4.3
Retail Trade.....	304.9	301.2	291.5	286.6	+3.7	+13.4
FIN., INS., & REAL ESTATE.....	93.7	93.5	92.1	91.6	+0.2	+1.6
SERVICES.....	339.5	337.3	326.9	325.8	+2.2	+12.6
GOVERNMENT.....	340.7	339.7	332.8	331.4	+1.0	+7.9
Federal.....	68.4	67.7	67.4	67.3	+0.7	+1.0
State & Local.....	272.3	272.0	265.4	264.1	+0.3	+6.9
Education.....	150.2	150.1	145.5	145.1	+0.1	+4.7
(WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES).....	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.0	+0.1	0.0

1/ These data are alternative estimates which are more nearly comparable to data released in previous years than are official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for federal program purposes.

2/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during pay period including the 12th of the month.

3/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastics products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

4/ Excludes workers involved in labor-management disputes.

Washington State
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Date: June 25, 1984
Benchmark: 1983

John Spellman, Governor
Norward J. Brooks, Commissioner

	May 1984 Preliminary 3/				April 1984 Revised				May 1983 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Washington State Total 1/	2,095,900	1,896,200	199,700	9.5	2,070,700	1,863,300	207,400	10.0	2,069,500	1,835,400	234,100	11.3
Bellingham SMSA	52,600	47,100	5,500	10.5	52,400	46,500	5,900	11.3	51,500	45,400	6,100	11.8
Bremerton SMSA	65,200	60,500	4,700	7.2	64,800	59,900	4,900	7.6	64,000	58,800	5,200	8.1
Olympia SMSA	59,800	53,800	6,000	10.0	58,900	52,700	6,200	10.5	59,500	53,000	6,500	10.9
Seattle-Everett SMSA	916,200	841,900	74,300	8.1	909,800	835,100	74,700	8.2	899,200	806,800	92,400	10.3
Spokane SMSA	157,800	144,400	13,400	8.5	156,700	143,100	13,600	8.7	155,800	139,600	16,200	10.4
Tacoma SMSA	193,800	173,300	20,500	10.6	193,500	172,300	21,200	11.0	192,000	168,100	23,900	12.4
Tri-Cities Area 2/	77,600	67,900	9,700	12.5	75,600	65,700	9,900	13.1	79,700	68,800	10,900	13.7
Yakima SMSA	96,000	82,800	13,200	13.8	91,000	77,300	13,700	15.1	96,200	82,600	13,600	14.1
Wenatchee Labor Area 2/	37,700	32,570	5,200	13.8	38,480	33,220	5,260	13.7	38,230	32,100	6,130	16.0
Adams	8,500	7,540	960	11.3	7,830	6,870	960	12.3	7,570	6,660	970	12.8
Asotin	8,540	7,790	750	8.8	8,190	7,350	840	10.3	8,830	7,830	1,000	11.3
Clallam	19,910	17,600	2,310	11.6	19,870	17,270	2,600	13.1	19,740	16,850	2,890	14.6
Clark	93,960	86,500	7,460	7.9	94,250	86,200	8,050	8.5	94,080	84,520	9,560	10.2
Columbia	2,740	2,550	190	6.9	2,180	1,960	220	10.1	2,810	2,560	250	8.9
Cowlitz	33,430	29,210	4,220	12.6	32,950	28,470	4,480	13.6	33,760	28,680	5,080	15.0
Ferry	2,810	2,380	430	15.3	2,840	2,260	580	20.4	2,760	2,220	540	19.6
Garfield	1,470	1,340	130	8.8	1,300	1,180	120	9.2	1,330	1,220	110	8.3
Grant	26,130	23,110	3,020	11.6	24,040	20,980	3,060	12.7	24,450	21,460	2,990	12.2
Grays Harbor	29,100	25,240	3,860	13.3	28,840	24,760	4,080	14.1	31,860	27,620	4,240	13.3
Island	15,720	14,420	1,300	8.3	15,420	14,070	1,350	8.8	15,740	14,200	1,540	9.8
Jefferson	6,880	6,260	620	9.0	6,740	6,050	690	10.2	6,680	6,020	660	9.9
Kittitas	11,920	10,280	1,640	13.8	11,840	9,870	1,970	16.6	11,270	9,760	1,510	13.4
Klickitat	7,410	6,330	1,080	14.6	7,150	5,930	1,220	17.1	7,100	6,000	1,100	15.5
Lewis	25,200	22,060	3,140	12.5	24,720	21,160	3,560	14.4	24,690	21,130	3,560	14.4
Lincoln	5,210	5,020	190	3.6	4,620	4,430	190	4.1	4,740	4,520	220	4.6
Mason	11,170	10,050	1,120	10.0	11,100	9,850	1,250	11.3	11,170	9,780	1,390	12.4
Okanogan	15,770	13,150	2,620	16.6	15,670	12,590	3,080	19.7	16,180	13,300	2,880	17.8
Pacific	7,820	6,500	1,320	16.9	7,390	6,280	1,110	15.0	7,360	6,290	1,070	14.5
Pend Oreille	4,430	3,730	700	15.8	4,360	3,570	790	18.1	3,740	2,970	770	20.6
San Juan	3,900	3,650	250	6.4	3,710	3,420	290	7.8	3,880	3,570	310	8.0
Skagit	34,420	29,720	4,700	13.7	34,170	29,030	5,140	15.0	33,670	28,720	4,950	14.7
Skamania	2,820	2,330	490	17.4	2,780	2,250	530	19.1	3,000	2,440	560	18.7
Stevens	12,840	10,920	1,920	15.0	12,660	10,240	2,420	19.1	12,920	10,640	2,280	17.6
Wahkiakum	1,490	1,370	120	8.1	1,420	1,320	100	7.0	1,250	1,150	100	8.0
Walla Walla	27,180	25,000	2,180	8.0	26,060	23,190	2,870	11.0	26,100	24,080	2,020	7.7
Whitman	18,450	17,940	510	2.8	17,410	16,800	610	3.5	16,710	16,100	610	3.7

1/ Detail may not add due to rounding.

2/ The Tri-Cities area includes all of Benton and Franklin Counties. The Wenatchee Labor Area includes all of Chelan and Douglas counties.

3/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series. Official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates, which must be used for Federal program purposes, are available upon request.

Research and Analysis Branch

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

June 24, 1984
Benchmark 1983

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	May 1984 Preliminary				April 1984 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Washington State Total 1/	2,068,800	1,868,400	200,400	9.7	2,065,200	1,855,600	209,600	10.1
Bellingham SMSA	51,900	46,400	5,500	10.6	52,300	46,300	6,000	11.5
Bremerton SMSA	64,300	59,600	4,700	7.3	64,700	59,700	5,000	7.7
Olympia SMSA	59,000	53,000	6,000	10.2	58,700	52,400	6,300	10.7
King County	710,300	655,600	54,700	7.7	713,600	657,200	56,400	7.9
Snohomish County	193,800	174,000	19,800	10.2	193,500	174,450	19,050	9.8
Spokane SMSA	155,700	142,300	13,400	8.6	156,200	142,500	13,700	8.8
Tacoma SMSA	191,300	170,700	20,600	10.8	193,000	171,600	21,400	11.1
Tri-Cities Area 2/	76,600	66,900	9,700	12.7	75,500	65,500	10,000	13.2
Yakima SMSA	94,800	81,600	13,200	13.9	90,800	76,900	13,900	15.3
Wenatchee Labor Area 3/	37,300	32,090	5,210	14.0	38,410	33,090	5,320	13.9
Adams	8,390	7,430	960	11.4	7,810	6,840	970	12.4
Asotin	8,420	7,670	750	8.9	8,170	7,320	850	10.4
Clallam	19,670	17,350	2,320	11.8	19,830	17,200	2,630	13.3
Clark	92,720	85,230	7,490	8.1	93,990	85,850	8,140	8.7
Columbia	2,700	2,510	190	7.0	2,180	1,950	230	10.6
Cowlitz	33,010	28,780	4,230	12.8	32,890	28,360	4,530	13.8
Ferry	2,780	2,340	440	15.8	2,840	2,250	590	20.8
Garfield	1,450	1,320	130	9.0	1,290	1,170	120	9.3
Grant	25,800	22,770	3,030	11.7	23,990	20,900	3,090	12.9
Grays Harbor	28,740	24,870	3,870	13.5	28,780	24,650	4,130	14.4
Island	15,520	14,210	1,310	8.4	15,370	14,010	1,360	8.8
Jefferson	6,800	6,170	630	9.3	6,730	6,030	700	10.4
Kittitas	11,770	10,130	1,640	13.9	11,820	9,830	1,990	16.8
Klickitat	7,310	6,230	1,080	14.8	7,150	5,910	1,240	17.3
Lewis	24,890	21,740	3,150	12.7	24,670	21,080	3,590	14.6
Lincoln	5,140	4,950	190	3.7	4,600	4,410	190	4.1
Mason	11,020	9,900	1,120	10.2	11,070	9,810	1,260	11.4
Okanogan	15,580	12,950	2,630	16.9	15,650	12,540	3,110	19.9
Pacific	7,730	6,400	1,330	17.2	7,370	6,250	1,120	15.2
Pend Oreille	4,380	3,680	700	16.0	4,350	3,560	790	18.2
San Juan	3,840	3,590	250	6.5	3,700	3,400	300	8.1
Skagit	34,000	29,290	4,710	13.9	34,100	28,910	5,190	15.2
Skamania	2,790	2,290	500	17.9	2,770	2,240	530	19.1
Stevens	12,690	10,760	1,930	15.2	12,650	10,200	2,450	19.4
Wahkiakum	1,470	1,350	120	8.2	1,410	1,310	100	7.1
Walla Walla	26,830	24,640	2,190	8.2	25,990	23,090	2,900	11.2
Whitman	18,200	17,680	520	2.9	17,340	16,730	610	3.5

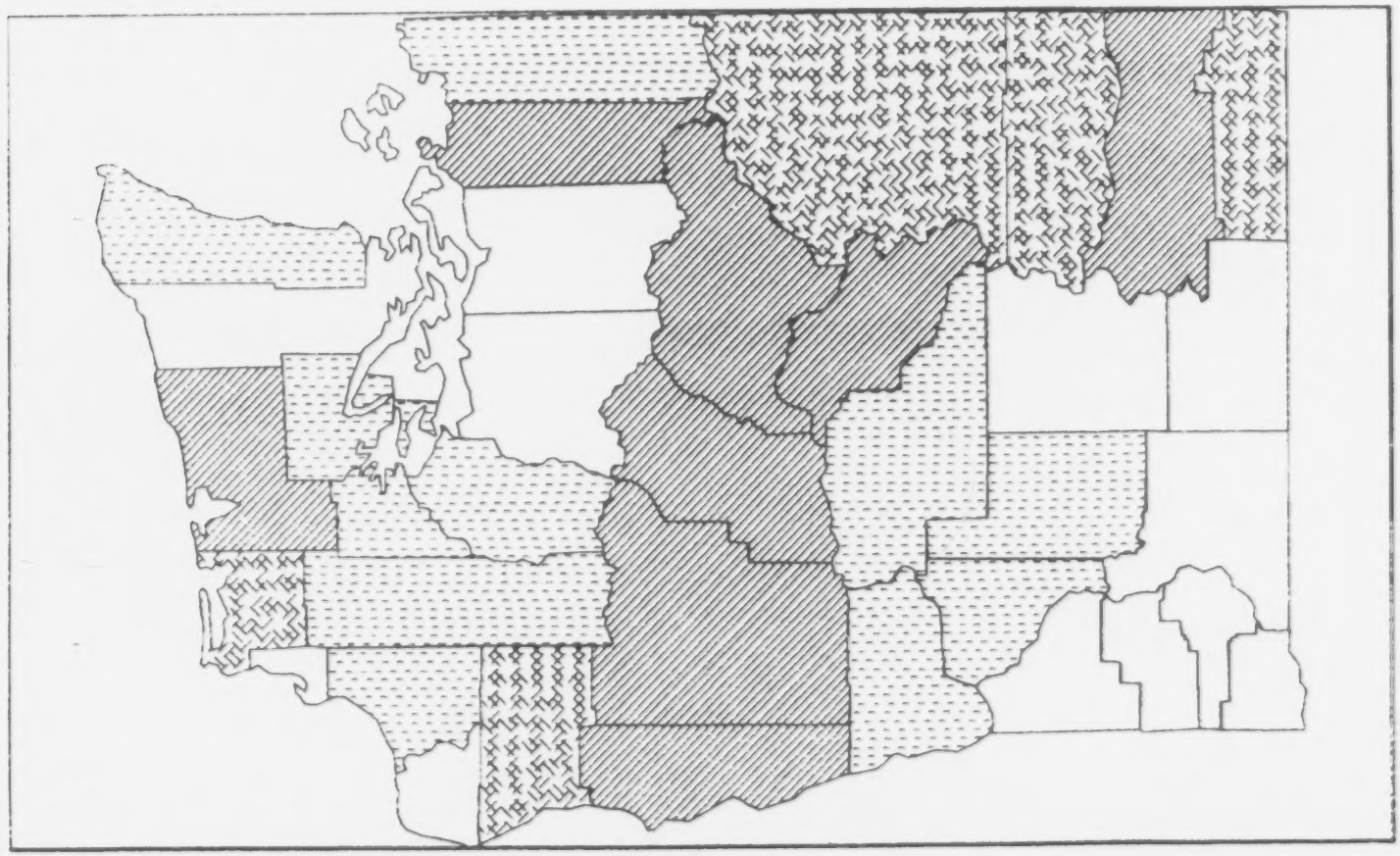
1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.

2/ Includes Benton and Franklin counties.

3/ Includes Chelan and Douglas counties.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING AND OF NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS IN NONMANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES, STATE OF WASHINGTON

	Apr. 1984 Prod. or Nonsup. Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Apr. 1984	Mar. 1984	Apr. 1983	Apr. 1984	Mar. 1984	Apr. 1983	Apr. 1984	Mar. 1984	Apr. 1983
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	180,300	$454.70	$453.15	$427.52	39.3	39.2	37.7	$11.57	$11.56	$11.34
Lumber and Wood Products	38,300	436.89	442.33	450.87	38.8	39.6	39.9	11.26	11.17	11.30
Primary Metal Industries	10,800	560.77	561.04	537.93	42.1	41.9	41.7	13.32	13.39	12.90
Fabricated Metal Products	7,200	481.90	482.10	494.10	41.4	41.1	40.6	11.64	11.73	12.17
Machinery	16,900	409.25	409.37	374.57	39.2	39.4	38.3	10.44	10.39	9.78
Food and Kindred Products	22,800	354.31	349.90	335.56	37.1	36.6	35.1	9.55	9.56	9.56
Chemicals and Allied Products	5,300	546.07	520.83	507.41	42.2	41.7	41.9	12.94	12.49	12.11
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction	50,900	608.29	641.58	641.16	36.6	37.0	36.0	16.62	17.34	17.81
Wholesale and Retail Trade	247,900	321.89	310.71	313.61	34.5	33.7	34.2	9.33	9.22	9.17


OVER 15.3
13.3 - 15.3
10.0 - 13.2
UNDER 10.0
MAY
UNEMPLOYMENT
RATES